

Hello to everyone in Navy Medicine and the Hospital Corps! I am currently writing to you from the Navy Medicine Strategy Off-Site along with multiple BUMED Flag Officers and the prospective Force Master Chief, Hosea Smith. Mark your calendars for the Surgeon General's Leadership Seminar 2-3 May 2017.

1. Congratulations to the last Advanced Dental Assistant (8702) class! I am so glad to have been your guest speaker, and what a privilege to spend some time with everyone in sunny California! Repetition is one of the keys in learning and executing your craft.

2. Over the next year, there will be a turnover of ETLs in the following NECs. To be considered for the position, submit your packages to HMC Casiano at Leonor.m.casiano.mil@mail.mil
NECs: 8404, 8425, 8486, 8493/94, 8496, 8503

3. Congratulations to HMCS Blake Cooper from Annapolis, MD on his selection to the Office Joint Staff Surgeons Office. Thank you to all the highly competitive and qualified applicants who applied! Should be a very exciting opportunity for you and a great way to bring back copious amounts of joint knowledge to the US Navy.

4. Those eligible for Master Chief this year; don't forget about submitting your package per NAVADMIN 197/16, Letter to the Board is due 13 March 2017.

5. In concert with the above paragraph; all those eligible for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class Petty Officer, it's your duty to study and prepare for the next rank. As leaders, we are charged to train the upcoming Sailors as our replacement. I urge each of you to use items in your tool box such as the Enlisted Advancement Program courses, and other study times for extra motivation.

6. The FY-18 Enlisted to Medical Degree Preparatory Program (EMPD2) Season is upon us, start preparing your packages for review and submission later this year. As we await the FY-18 announcement, BUMED commands are reminded to review last year's NAVADMIN 202/16 for reference. Contact HMCS(FMF/SW/IW) John Hendrick, Force Planner at (703)681-4334, john.hendrick.mil@mail.mil for any questions or concerns.

7. Points of Contact for regional Career Counselors.
NCCS(SW/AW) LaMondt B. Sanders; BUMED CC - (703) 681-8929
lamondt.b.sanders.mil@mail.mil

NCCS(SW/SS/IW/AW) David Briggs; NAVMED WEST - (619) 556-5057
David.m.briggs.mil@mail.mil

NCCS(SW/AW) Harold Gibbs III; NAVMED EAST - (757) 953-7176
Harold.f.gibbs.mil@mail.mil

HM2(EXW) Lane, Jacob; NMETLC - (210) 808-9900
Jacob.a.lane8.mil@mail.mil

8. The Meritorious Advancement Program (MAP) is scheduled to roll out March 2017.

MAP Quota Breakdown: E4: 216 E5: 107 E6: 40

9. In remembrance:

HM2 Kyler Estrada, 11th MEU (12FEB12)
HN Lucas Emch, 1st MLG, I MEF (02MAR07)

You will never be forgotten!

10. These dedicated Navy leaders will go ashore in the next two weeks - All of us hope the next chapter of your lives is even more rewarding. Fair winds and following seas to:

HMC James Ward (2nd MEF) 24 February 2017
HMC William Monroe (NH Pensacola) 24 February 2017

In closing, I am continuously inspired by the constant vigilance and focus of our Sailors! The ability to always improve processes and meet our mission in support of our great country is OUTSTANDING! HOO-YAH!